

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

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SIXTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • 737-4215 extension 224

FOR RELEASE

FRIDAY a.m.  
December 1, 1972

## CARL NORDENFALK APPOINTED KRESS PROFESSOR FOR 1972-73 AT NATIONAL GALLERY

WASHINGTON, D.C. November 29, 1972. Carl A. J. Nordenfalk, Director Emeritus of the National Museum, Stockholm, and an eminent scholar of medieval art, has been named Samuel H. Kress Professor at the National Gallery of Art for 1972-73.

While at the Gallery this year, he hopes to complete his part of a monograph on Rembrandt's monumental painting, "The Oath of the Batavians under Claudius Civilis." The painting is considered the greatest art treasure in Sweden.

Since his retirement in 1969 as Director General of the Swedish National Museum, Dr. Nordenfalk has devoted himself to research and teaching in the United States. In 1968-70, he was a Visiting Member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and 1970-71, he taught first as Regent Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and then as Mellon Visiting Professor at the University of Pittsburgh.

He will return to the University of Pittsburgh for a period of five years after his residency as Kress Professor at the National Gallery.

While at the Stockholm Museum, Dr. Nordenfalk arranged major exhibitions of French, Venetian, Spanish, and Dutch art. In 1966 he staged the widely-acclaimed exhibition on Queen Christina of Sweden under the auspices of the Council of Europe.

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Apart from his museum activity, Dr. Nordenfalk is known as one of the finest scholars in the field of illuminated manuscripts, particularly through his studies on late antique and early medieval book decorations. With André Grabar, he published two volumes in the Skira series The Great Centuries of Painting, generally considered one of the major texts in the field.

He has recently had published a book on the earliest history of the book initial and a study of the Ottonian school of Echternach in a color facsimile edition of the Codex Caesareus Upsaliensis.

Dr. Nordenfalk will be in residence until the beginning of the academic year 1973-74. During October, he gave the Slade Lectures at the University of Cambridge, England, which he will complete next spring.

The Kress Professorship, established in 1965, is supported by a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. During a year's stay in Washington, the Kress Professor works on projects of his choosing, advises the Gallery on potential acquisitions and other curatorial activities, and exercises advisory supervision of the Gallery's fellowship programs and its Fellows in residence. The Kress Professor also serves as Chairman of the National Gallery's Fellowship Committee, which recommends candidates for Fellowship grants.

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